Esterline/Advanced Input Systems: 2018 Pollution Prevention Champion

Coeur d'Alene

Environmental Commitment

Esterline has been recognized by the Department of Environmental Quality as a Pollution Prevention Champion on three separate occasions. In 2018, the company continued it's successful track record of reducing environmental impact by focusing on energy use and waste associated with the disposal of fluorescent lamps. Esterline continues to set ambitious goals, and consistently demonstrates that it is able to meet and exceed those goals.

Reducing Hazardous Waste and Energy Use

For 2018, Esterline committed to replacing nearly all of the existing fluorescent, metal halide, incandescent, and other inefficient lighting at its Coeur d'Alene fabrication facility with high efficiency LED fixtures. Not content to stop at the lighting within the building, the company also targeted the lighting fixtures used for illuminating the facility's parking lot. Working over several months, employees from the company swapped out old fixtures for LED lamps. Esterline/Advanced Input Systems is now able to demonstrate that it has successfully reduced its electricity use through an LED lighting retrofit program that is estimated to save the company over 870,000 kWh of electricity use per year, or the equivalent of 60 homes of electricity use annually.

Two other benefits will also result from this changeover. First, the replacement cycle for the LED lamps is considerably longer than for fluorescent lamps and other fixtures. With an average operating life estimate of between eight and ten years, the lamps will require far less maintenance and replacement, reducing risks of falls and injury to maintenance staff. Secondly, fluorescent lamps contain mercury, a toxic metal and listed hazardous waste. Disposal of spent lamps requires careful handling and retrofit will also reduce waste generation as the lamps are anticipated to have a much longer operating life. Maintenance staff from Esterline estimate that the facility was replacing between 40 and 50 lamps per week, meaning that total reduction of lamp waste could be as high as 2,500 lamps per year.

For More Information

To learn more about the Esterline/Advanced Input Systems, visit the company's website at http://www.esterline.com/advancedinput/Overview.aspx